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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Gordon Ray NELSON et al.

Serial No.: 09/612,009

Filed: July 7, 2000

For: Automated Semiconductor Processing
System

Group Art Unit: 3641

Examiner: Not yet assigned

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In compliance with the Applicants' duty under 37 CFR 1.97-98, the following information is brought to the attention of the Examiner. The items are listed on the attached form PTO-1449 and copies are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

The items identified in this Information Disclosure Statement may or may not be "material" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56 and the submission thereof by Applicants shall not be construed as an admission that any such patent, publication or other information referred to therein is material or

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(37 C.F.R. §1.8a)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

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considered to be material (37 CFR 1.97(h)), or even qualifies as "prior art" under 35 U.S.C. § 102 with respect to this invention unless specifically designated by Applicants as such.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information, as defined in 37 CFR 1.56, exists.

This statement is being filed before the first Office Action on the merits. Accordingly, no fee is required for the information disclosed herein to be considered. Should Applicant be in error, however, please charge any fee required for the consideration of this paper to counsel's Deposit Account No. 12-2475. s of 37 CFR § 1.136 apply.

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Respectfully submitted,

LYON & LYON LLP

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Dated: June 1, 2001

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